

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**  
**PCT**  
**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)  
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference FR920030026/CB	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	
See Form PCT/PEA/416		
International application No. PCT/EP2004/050721	International filing date (day/month/year) 06.05.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 30.06.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F17/30		
<p>Applicant <b>INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION</b></p> <p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the International application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</li> </ul> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)), containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or Industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</li> </ul>		
Date of submission of the demand 28.01.2005	Date of completion of this report 18.08.2005	
Name and mailing address of the International preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer  Boyadzhiev, Y  Telephone No. +31 70 340-4548	



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## **INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**

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PCT/EP2004/050721

10 DECEMBER 2005

**Box No. I Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
    - This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
      - international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
      - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
      - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
  2. With regard to the elements\* of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

**Description, Pages**

**1-16** as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

**1-9** as originally filed.

## **Drawings, Sheets**

**1/7-77** as originally filed

- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing
  - 3.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
    - the description, pages
    - the claims, Nos.
    - the drawings, sheets/figs
    - the sequence listing (*specify*):
    - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
  - 4.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
    - the description, pages
    - the claims, Nos.
    - the drawings, sheets/figs
    - the sequence listing (*specify*):
    - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-9
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-9
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-9
	No: Claims	

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):**

**see separate sheet**

02020

International application No.

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**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**Article 6 PCT**

1. The abbreviation "CSS" used in claim 1 (line 2) should have been "Cascading Style Sheets".
2. The preference aggregation step in claim 1 (lines 10-14) is interpreted in the light of the description (p.11 lines 5-9 and lines 17-21; and p.15 lines 5-12) as aggregating all the **device capabilities**, the device preferences and the network preferences, and suppressing the contradictory **preferences**, the **network preferences** being of the highest priority, the result forming a Request rule list.
3. The expressions "network display possibilities" and "network possibilities" used in claim 1 (lines 12 and line 21) should have been "network preferences".
4. The expression "reflecting the CSS rule list" used in claim 1 (line 20) is interpreted in the light of the description (p.13 lines 20-24, "for each ... HTML 3.2." and p.9 lines 17-20, "The CSS ... network.") as applying the CSS rule list while taking into account the device and network preferences as stated in the Request rule list.

**Article 33(2) and Article 33(3) PCT**

2. Reference is made to the following document :

D1: GB-A-2 366 037 (IBM) 27 February 2002 (2002-02-27)

The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A method executing on a computing system for allowing a device using a Web browser unable to support CSS, to request through a network and display Web HTML page including CSS while using all the presentation features of the included CSS that it can support through the network, (p.1 lines 3-6, "The present ... target device.", p.3 lines 1-8, "Unfortunately ... claim 1." and p.2 lines 6-9, "Once ... W3C.") said method comprising the

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steps of :

- receiving a request from the device for obtaining a Web HTML page; (p.5 lines 26-27, "the request ... server 46.")
- identifying the requesting device, (p.6 lines 10-13, "The style sheet ... request.")
- retrieving the requested Web page from a Web server; (p.5 lines 33-34, "The parsing ... the requested document 56 ...")
- modifying the objects of the DOM model of the web document by applying the sheet rules (p.8 lines 37-41, "After ... others." and p.10 lines 6-9, "Comparing ... deleted.")
- transmitting to the device the HTML page comprising the modified statements. (p.9 lines 41-43, "After ... display.")

The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from this known from D1 in that:

- a) aggregating all the CSS presentation definitions of the Web page while suppressing the conflicting ones in a resulting CSS rule list;
- b) modifying the statements of the Web HTML page which are not related to CSS, applying (reflecting) the CSS rule list while taking into account the device and the network preferences (possibilities) as stated in the Request rule list;

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT)

The features above allow a device having a browser which does not support Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) to display HTML web pages including CSS while using the presentation features of the included CSS.

D1 does not propose this solution to the stated problem, either alone or in combination with any of other prior art knowledge. D1 performs a customization of a web page containing only basic HTML elements by using style sheets.

Therefore the solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).

Claims 2-7 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

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IAP20 Rec'd. 0 22 DEC 2005

CLAIMS

1. A method executing on a computing system for allowing a device using a Web browser unable to support CSS, to request through a network and display Web HTML pages including CSS while using all the presentation features of the included CSS that it can support through the network, said method comprising the steps of:
  - receiving a request from the device for obtaining a Web HTML page;
  - identifying the requesting device, aggregating all the device and network preferences, and suppressing the contradictory information, the network display possibilities being of the highest priority, the result forming a Request rule list;
  - retrieving the requested Web page from a Web server;
  - aggregating all the CSS presentation definitions of the Web page while suppressing the conflicting ones in a resulting CSS rule list;
  - modifying the statements of the HTML page which are not related to CSS, reflecting the CSS rule list while taking into account the device and network possibilities as stated in the Request rule list;
  - transmitting to the device the HTML page comprising the modified statements.
- 25 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the modifying step further comprises the steps of:
  - creating an action list of the modifications to bring to the HTML page which are not related to CSS; and
  - interpreting these actions to create the modified statements.
- 30 3. The method of anyone of claims 1 or 2 wherein the step of aggregating all the CSS presentation definitions further

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comprises the steps of:

- collecting the CSS presentation definitions embedded in the retrieved HTML page;
- reading from a Web server, of which the address is provided  
5 in an HTML statement, the CSS presentation definitions stored in a CSS file stored on the Web server.

4. The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of storing on a CSS cache file, the CSS file read from the Web server.

10 5. The method of anyone of claims 1 to 4 further comprising a step of using the request from the device to perform added value function concerning the device activity.

15 6. The method of anyone of claims 1 to 5 further comprising an initial step of storing in repositories information on device capabilities, device preferences and network preferences, said repositories being read for executing the step of aggregating all the device and network preferences.

20 7. The method of anyone of claims 1 to 6 further comprising, before the transmitting step a step of suppressing in the HTML page statements all the statements which where included in the retrieved Web page and which are related to CSS.

25 8. A computer program product comprising programming code instructions for executing the steps of the method according to anyone of claims 1 to 7 when said program is executed on a computer.

9. A data processing system comprising means adapted for carrying out anyone of the steps of the method according to anyone of claims 1 to 7.

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